

IN THE TITLE:

Please delete the title, and replace therefor:

IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EXTRACTING AN
IMAGE

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

At page 2, please replace lines 5-9 with the following amended lines:

For the registration, a technique described in, for example, "Multi-modal Volume Registration by Maximization of Mutual Information" written by W. M. Wells III et al. (~~http://splweb.bwh.harvard.edu:8000/pages/papers/swells/mja—html/mia.html~~) is adopted.

At page 7, please replace lines 14-17 with the following amended lines:

The granulometry is known as described in, for example, "Granulometry; Mathematical Morphology in Statistical Sense" (~~http://kuva.mis.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/~asano/Kougi/00a/Infstat11/11—10.pdf~~) Sense," Information statistics II, Lecture 5 (Nov. 10, 2000).